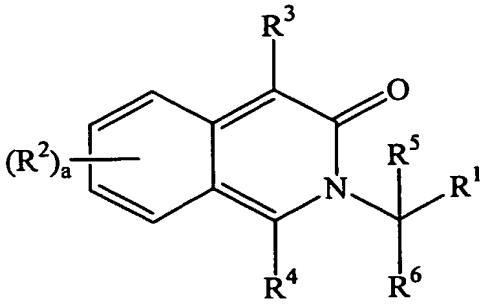
WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A pharmaceutical composition useful in treating cancer or inflammation in a human, wherein the pharmaceutical composition comprises a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, diluent or excipient and a compound of formula (I):



(I)

wherein:

a is 0 to 4;

R^1 is carbocyclyl or heterocyclyl;

each R^2 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, aryl, aralkyl, aralkenyl, halo, haloalkyl, haloalkenyl, nitro, cyano, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, cycloalkylalkenyl, heterocyclyl, heterocyclylalkyl, $-OR^7$, $-C(O)OR^7$, $-C(O)N(R^7)_2$, $-N(R^7)_2$, $-N(R^7)C(O)OR^8$, $-N(R^7)C(O)R^7$, $-N(R^7)C(O)N(R^7)_2$,$-R^9-N=N-O-R^8$, $-S(O)_pR^7$ (where p is 0 to 2), and $-S(O)_pN(R^7)_2$ (where p is 0 to 2);

R^3 and R^4 are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, aryl, aralkyl, aralkenyl, halo, haloalkyl, haloalkenyl, nitro, cyano, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, cycloalkylalkenyl, heterocyclyl, heterocyclylalkyl, $-OR^7$, $-C(O)OR^7$, $-C(O)N(R^7)_2$, $-N(R^7)_2$, $-N(R^7)C(O)OR^8$, $-N(R^7)C(O)N(R^7)_2$, $-N(R^7)C(O)R^7$, $-R^9-N=N-O-R^8$, $-S(O)_pR^7$ (where p is 0 to 2), and $-S(O)_pN(R^7)_2$ (where p is 0 to 2);

R^5 and R^6 are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, haloalkyl, haloalkenyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl and heterocyclylalkyl;

each R^7 is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, haloalkyl, haloalkenyl, aryl, aralkyl, aralkenyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl and cycloalkylalkenyl;

each R^8 is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, haloalkyl, haloalkenyl, aralkyl, aralkenyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl and cycloalkylalkenyl; and

R^9 is a bond or a straight or branched alkylene or alkenylene chain;

as a single stereoisomer, a mixture of stereoisomers, or as a racemic mixture of stereoisomers; or as a solvate or polymorph; or as a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,

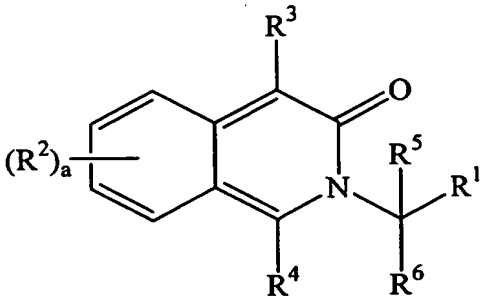
with the proviso that R^1 can not be unsubstituted phenyl when all of the following occur:

(i) a is 2 and one R^2 is methoxy in the 6-position of the isoquinolone ring and the other R^2 is methoxy in the 7-position of the isoquinolone ring; and

(ii) R^3, R^5 and R^6 are all hydrogen, and

(iii) R^4 is 3,4-dimethoxybenzyl.

2. The use of a compound of formula (I):



(I)

wherein:

a is 0 to 4;

R^1 is carbocyclyl or heterocyclyl;

each R^2 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, aryl, aralkyl, aralkenyl, halo, haloalkyl, haloalkenyl, nitro, cyano, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, cycloalkylalkenyl, heterocyclyl, heterocyclylalkyl, $-OR^7$, $-C(O)OR^7$, $-C(O)N(R^7)_2$, $-N(R^7)_2$, $-N(R^7)C(O)N(R^7)_2$, $-N(R^7)C(O)OR^8$, $-N(R^7)C(O)R^7$, $-R^9-N=N-O-R^8$, $-S(O)_pR^7$ (where p is 0 to 2), and $-S(O)_pN(R^7)_2$ (where p is 0 to 2);

R^3 and R^4 are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, aryl, aralkyl, aralkenyl, halo, haloalkyl, haloalkenyl, nitro, cyano, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, cycloalkylalkenyl, heterocyclyl, heterocyclylalkyl, $-OR^7$, $-C(O)OR^7$,

$-C(O)N(R^7)_2$, $-N(R^7)_2$, $-N(R^7)C(O)N(R^7)_2$, $-N(R^7)C(O)OR^8$, $-N(R^7)C(O)R^7$, $-R^9-N=N-O-R^8$, $-S(O)_pR^7$ (where p is 0 to 2), and $-S(O)_pN(R^7)_2$ (where p is 0 to 2);

R^5 and R^6 are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, haloalkyl, haloalkenyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl and heterocyclylalkyl; each R^7 is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, haloalkyl, haloalkenyl, aryl, aralkyl, aralkenyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl and cycloalkylalkenyl;

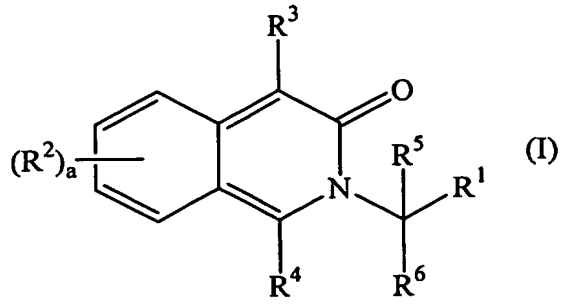
each R^8 is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, haloalkyl, haloalkenyl, aralkyl, aralkenyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl and cycloalkylalkenyl; and

R^9 is a bond or a straight or branched alkylene or alkenylene chain;

as a single stereoisomer, a mixture of stereoisomers, or as a racemic mixture of stereoisomers; or as a solvate or polymorph; or as a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

to treat cancer in a mammal.

3. The use of a compound of formula (I):



(I)

wherein:

a is 0 to 4;

R^1 is carbocyclyl or heterocyclyl;

each R^2 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, aryl, aralkyl, aralkenyl, halo, haloalkyl, haloalkenyl, nitro, cyano, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, cycloalkylalkenyl, heterocyclyl, heterocyclylalkyl, $-OR^7$, $-C(O)OR^7$, $-C(O)N(R^7)_2$, $-N(R^7)_2$, $-N(R^7)C(O)N(R^7)_2$, $-N(R^7)C(O)OR^8$, $-N(R^7)C(O)R^7$, $-R^9-N=N-O-R^8$, $-S(O)_pR^7$ (where p is 0 to 2), and $-S(O)_pN(R^7)_2$ (where p is 0 to 2);

R^3 and R^4 are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, aryl, aralkyl, aralkenyl, halo, haloalkyl, haloalkenyl, nitro, cyano, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, cycloalkylalkenyl, heterocyclyl, heterocyclylalkyl, $-OR^7$, $-C(O)OR^7$, $-C(O)N(R^7)_2$, $-N(R^7)_2$, $-N(R^7)C(O)N(R^7)_2$,$-N(R^7)C(O)OR^8$, $-N(R^7)C(O)R^7$, $-R^9-N=N-O-R^8$, $-S(O)_pR^7$ (where p is 0 to 2), and $-S(O)_pN(R^7)_2$ (where p is 0 to 2);

R^5 and R^6 are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, haloalkyl, haloalkenyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl and heterocyclylalkyl;

each R^7 is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, haloalkyl, haloalkenyl, aryl, aralkyl, aralkenyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl and cycloalkylalkenyl;

each R^8 is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, haloalkyl, haloalkenyl, aralkyl, aralkenyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl and cycloalkylalkenyl; and

R^9 is a bond or a straight or branched alkylene or alkenylene chain;

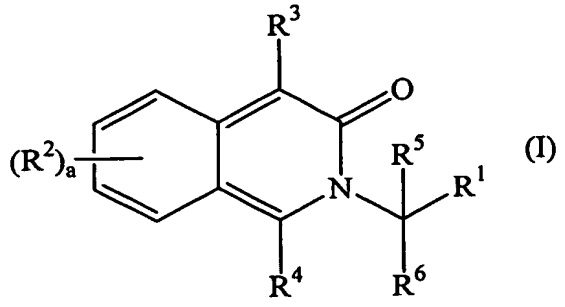
as a single stereoisomer, a mixture of stereoisomers, or as a racemic mixture of stereoisomers; or as a solvate or polymorph; or as a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

to treat inflammation in a mammal.

4. The use of any one of Claim 2 or 3 wherein the cancer or inflammation is associated with hyperproliferation or cell survival.

5. The use or pharmaceutical composition according to any one of Claim 2 or 3 wherein the cancer or inflammation is associated with the activity of SGK.

6. The use of a compound of formula (I)



(I)

wherein:

a is 0 to 4;

R^1 is carbocyclyl or heterocyclyl;

each R^2 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, aryl, aralkyl, aralkenyl, halo, haloalkyl, haloalkenyl, nitro, cyano, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, cycloalkylalkenyl, heterocyclyl, heterocyclylalkyl, $-OR^7$, $-C(O)OR^7$, $-C(O)N(R^7)_2$, $-N(R^7)_2$, $-N(R^7)C(O)N(R^7)_2$, $-N(R^7)C(O)OR^8$, $-N(R^7)C(O)R^7$, $-R^9-N=N-O-R^8$, $-S(O)_pR^7$ (where p is 0 to 2), and $-S(O)_pN(R^7)_2$ (where p is 0 to 2);

R^3 and R^4 are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, aryl, aralkyl, aralkenyl, halo, haloalkyl, haloalkenyl, nitro, cyano, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, cycloalkylalkenyl, heterocyclyl, heterocyclylalkyl, $-OR^7$, $-C(O)OR^7$, $-C(O)N(R^7)_2$, $-N(R^7)_2$, $-N(R^7)C(O)N(R^7)_2$, $-N(R^7)C(O)OR^8$, $-N(R^7)C(O)R^7$, $-R^9-N=N-O-R^8$, $-S(O)_pR^7$ (where p is 0 to 2), and $-S(O)_pN(R^7)_2$ (where p is 0 to 2);

R^5 and R^6 are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, haloalkyl, haloalkenyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl and heterocyclylalkyl;

each R^7 is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, haloalkyl, haloalkenyl, aryl, aralkyl, aralkenyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl and cycloalkylalkenyl;

each R^8 is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, haloalkyl, haloalkenyl, aralkyl, aralkenyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl and cycloalkylalkenyl; and

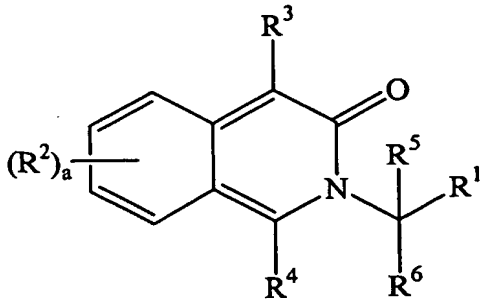
R^9 is a bond or a straight or branched alkylene or alkenylene chain;

as a single stereoisomer, a mixture of stereoisomers, or as a racemic mixture of stereoisomers;

or as a solvate or polymorph; or as a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

to treat hyperproliferative disorders in a mammal.

7. The use of a compound of formula (I):



(I)

wherein:

a is 0 to 4;

R^1 is carbocyclyl or heterocyclyl;

each R^2 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, aryl, aralkyl, aralkenyl, halo, haloalkyl, haloalkenyl, nitro, cyano, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, cycloalkylalkenyl, heterocyclyl, heterocyclylalkyl, $-OR^7$, $-C(O)OR^7$, $-C(O)N(R^7)_2$, $-N(R^7)_2$, $-N(R^7)C(O)N(R^7)_2$, $-N(R^7)C(O)OR^8$, $-N(R^7)C(O)R^7$, $-R^9-N=N-O-R^8$, $-S(O)_pR^7$ (where p is 0 to 2), and $-S(O)_pN(R^7)_2$ (where p is 0 to 2);

R^3 and R^4 are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, aryl, aralkyl, aralkenyl, halo, haloalkyl, haloalkenyl, nitro, cyano, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, cycloalkylalkenyl, heterocyclyl, heterocyclylalkyl, $-OR^7$, $-C(O)OR^7$, $-C(O)N(R^7)_2$, $-N(R^7)_2$, $-N(R^7)C(O)N(R^7)_2$, $-N(R^7)C(O)OR^8$, $-N(R^7)C(O)R^7$, $-R^9-N=N-O-R^8$, $-S(O)_pR^7$ (where p is 0 to 2), and $-S(O)_pN(R^7)_2$ (where p is 0 to 2);

R^5 and R^6 are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, haloalkyl, haloalkenyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl and heterocyclylalkyl;

each R^7 is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, haloalkyl, haloalkenyl, aryl, aralkyl, aralkenyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl and cycloalkylalkenyl;

each R^8 is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, haloalkyl, haloalkenyl, aralkyl, aralkenyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl and cycloalkylalkenyl; and

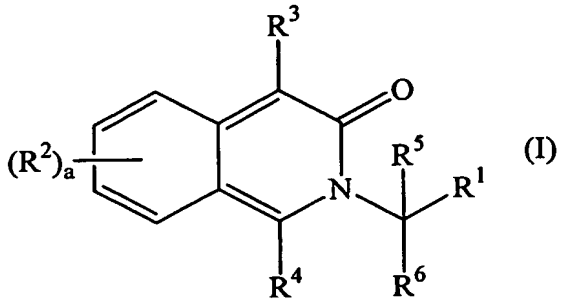
R^9 is a bond or a straight or branched alkylene or alkenylene chain;

as a single stereoisomer, a mixture of stereoisomers, or as a racemic mixture of stereoisomers; or as a solvate or polymorph; or as a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

to treat a mammal having a disorder or condition associated with hyperproliferation and cell survival.

8. The use of any one of Claims 2-7 wherein the mammal is a human.

9. The use of a compound of formula (I):



(I)

wherein:

a is 0 to 4;

R^1 is carbocyclyl or heterocyclyl;

each R^2 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, aryl, aralkyl, aralkenyl, halo, haloalkyl, haloalkenyl, nitro, cyano, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, cycloalkylalkenyl, heterocyclyl, heterocyclylalkyl, $-OR^7$, $-C(O)OR^7$, $-C(O)N(R^7)_2$, $-N(R^7)_2$, $-N(R^7)C(O)N(R^7)_2$, $-N(R^7)C(O)OR^8$, $-N(R^7)C(O)R^7$, $-R^9-N=N-O-R^8$, $-S(O)_pR^7$ (where p is 0 to 2), and $-S(O)_pN(R^7)_2$ (where p is 0 to 2);

R^3 and R^4 are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, aryl, aralkyl, aralkenyl, halo, haloalkyl, haloalkenyl, nitro, cyano, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, cycloalkylalkenyl, heterocyclyl, heterocyclylalkyl, $-OR^7$, $-C(O)OR^7$, $-C(O)N(R^7)_2$, $-N(R^7)_2$, $-N(R^7)C(O)N(R^7)_2$, $-N(R^7)C(O)OR^8$, $-N(R^7)C(O)R^7$, $-R^9-N=N-O-R^8$, $-S(O)_pR^7$ (where p is 0 to 2), and $-S(O)_pN(R^7)_2$ (where p is 0 to 2);

R^5 and R^6 are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, haloalkyl, haloalkenyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl and heterocyclylalkyl;

each R^7 is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, haloalkyl, haloalkenyl, aryl, aralkyl, aralkenyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl and cycloalkylalkenyl;

each R^8 is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, haloalkyl, haloalkenyl, aralkyl, aralkenyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl and cycloalkylalkenyl; and

R^9 is a bond or a straight or branched alkylene or alkenylene chain;

as a single stereoisomer, a mixture of stereoisomers, or as a racemic mixture of stereoisomers; or as a solvate or polymorph; or as a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

to treat a mammalian cell; wherein the compound is capable of inhibiting SGKα.

10. The use of Claim 9 wherein the mammalian cell is treated *in vitro*.

11. The use of Claim 9 wherein the mammalian cell is treated *in vivo*.

12. The use of Claim 9 wherein the inhibition of activity results in a reduction of cell survival.

13. The use of Claim 9 wherein the inhibition of activity results in a reduction of cell division.

14. The use of Claim 9, wherein the inhibition of activity results in apoptosis.

15. The use of Claim 9, wherein the inhibition of activity results in control of tumour growth.

16. The use of any one of Claims 2-15 wherein R^1 is carbocyclyl.

17. The use of Claim 16 wherein R^1 is aryl.

18. The use of Claim 16 wherein R^1 is cycloalkyl.

19. The use of any one of Claims 2-15 wherein R^1 is heterocyclyl.

20. The use of any one of Claims 2-19 wherein at least one R^2 is hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl or cycloalkylalkenyl.

21. The use of any one of Claims 2-19 wherein at least one R^2 is aryl, aralkyl or aralkenyl.

22. The use of any one of Claims 2-19 wherein at least one R^2 is halo, haloalkyl or haloalkenyl.

23. The use of any one of Claims 2-19 wherein at least one R^2 is nitro, cyano, $-N(R^7)_2$, $-N(R^7)C(O)OR^8$, $-N(R^7)C(O)R^7$ or $-R^9-N=N-O-R^8$.

24. The use of any one of Claims 2-19 wherein at least one R^2 is heterocyclyl or heterocyclylalkyl.

25. The use of any one of Claims 2-19 wherein at least one R^2 is $-C(O)OR^7$ or $-C(O)N(R^7)_2$.

26. The use of any one of Claims 2-19 wherein at least one R^2 is $-OR^7$, $-S(O)_pR^7$ (where p is 0 to 2), or $-S(O)_pN(R^7)_2$ (where p is 0 to 2).

27. The use of any one of Claims 2-26 wherein R^3 is hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, halo, haloalkyl, haloalkenyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl or cycloalkylalkenyl.

28. The use of any one of Claims 2-26 wherein R^3 is aryl, aralkyl or aralkenyl.

29. The use of any one of Claims 2-26 wherein R^3 is nitro, cyano, $-N(R^7)_2$, $-N(R^7)C(O)OR^8$, $-N(R^7)C(O)R^7$ or $-R^9-N=N-O-R^8$.

30. The use of any one of Claims 2-26 wherein R^3 is heterocyclyl or heterocyclylalkyl.

31. The use of any one of Claims 2-26 wherein R^3 is $-C(O)OR^7$ or $-C(O)N(R^7)_2$.

32. The use of any one of Claims 2-26 wherein R^3 is $-OR^7$, $-S(O)_pR^7$ (where p is 0 to 2) or $-S(O)_pN(R^7)_2$ (where p is 0 to 2).

33. The use of any one of Claims 2-32 wherein R^4 is hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, halo, haloalkyl, haloalkenyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl or cycloalkylalkenyl.

34. The use of any one of Claims 2-32 wherein R^4 is aryl, aralkyl or aralkenyl.

35. The use of any one of Claims 2-32 wherein R^4 is nitro, cyano, $-N(R^7)_2$, $-N(R^7)C(O)OR^8$, $-N(R^7)C(O)R^7$ or $-R^9-N=N-O-R^8$.

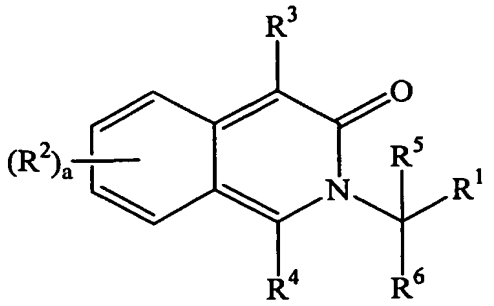
36. The use of any one of Claims 2-32 wherein R^4 is heterocyclyl or heterocyclylalkyl.

37. The use of any one of Claims 2-32 wherein R^4 is $-C(O)OR^7$ or $-C(O)N(R^7)_2$.

38. The use of any one of Claims 2-32 wherein R^4 is $-OR^7$, $-S(O)_pR^7$ (where p is 0 to 2) or $-S(O)_pN(R^7)_2$ (where p is 0 to 2).

39. The use of any of one of Claims 2-38 wherein R^5 and R^6 are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl or haloalkyl.

40. A method of treating cancer in a mammal, which method comprises administering to the mammal in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula (I):



(I)

wherein:

a is 0 to 4;

R^1 is carbocyclyl or heterocyclyl;

each R^2 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, aryl, aralkyl, aralkenyl, halo, haloalkyl, haloalkenyl, nitro, cyano, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, cycloalkylalkenyl, heterocyclyl, heterocyclylalkyl, $-OR^7$, $-C(O)OR^7$, $-C(O)N(R^7)_2$, $-N(R^7)_2$, $-N(R^7)C(O)N(R^7)_2$, $-N(R^7)C(O)OR^8$, $-N(R^7)C(O)R^7$, $-R^9-N=N-O-R^8$, $-S(O)_pR^7$ (where p is 0 to 2), and $-S(O)_pN(R^7)_2$ (where p is 0 to 2);

R^3 and R^4 are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, aryl, aralkyl, aralkenyl, halo, haloalkyl, haloalkenyl, nitro, cyano, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, cycloalkylalkenyl, heterocyclyl, heterocyclylalkyl, $-OR^7$, $-C(O)OR^7$, $-C(O)N(R^7)_2$, $-N(R^7)_2$, $-N(R^7)C(O)N(R^7)_2$, $-N(R^7)C(O)OR^8$, $-N(R^7)C(O)R^7$, $-R^9-N=N-O-R^8$, $-S(O)_pR^7$ (where p is 0 to 2), and $-S(O)_pN(R^7)_2$ (where p is 0 to 2);

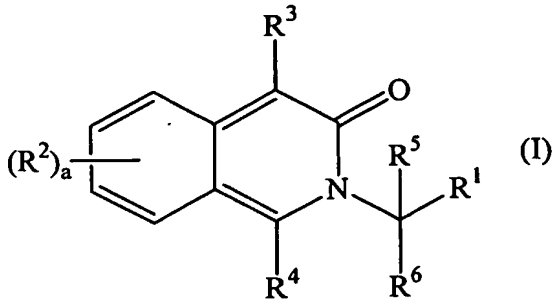
R^5 and R^6 are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, haloalkyl, haloalkenyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl and heterocyclylalkyl; each R^7 is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, haloalkyl, haloalkenyl, aryl, aralkyl, aralkenyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl and cycloalkylalkenyl;

each R^8 is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, haloalkyl, haloalkenyl, aralkyl, aralkenyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl and cycloalkylalkenyl; and

R^9 is a bond or a straight or branched alkylene or alkenylene chain;

as a single stereoisomer, a mixture of stereoisomers, or as a racemic mixture of stereoisomers; or as a solvate or polymorph; or as a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

41. A method of treating inflammation in a mammal, which method comprises administering to the mammal in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula (I):



(I)

wherein:

a is 0 to 4;

R^1 is carbocyclyl or heterocyclyl;

each R^2 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, aryl, aralkyl, aralkenyl, halo, haloalkyl, haloalkenyl, nitro, cyano, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, cycloalkylalkenyl, heterocyclyl, heterocyclylalkyl, $-OR^7$, $-C(O)OR^7$, $-C(O)N(R^7)_2$, $-N(R^7)_2$, $-N(R^7)C(O)N(R^7)_2$, $-N(R^7)C(O)OR^8$, $-N(R^7)C(O)R^7$, $-R^9-N=N-O-R^8$, $-S(O)_pR^7$ (where p is 0 to 2), and $-S(O)_pN(R^7)_2$ (where p is 0 to 2);

R^3 and R^4 are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, aryl, aralkyl, aralkenyl, halo, haloalkyl, haloalkenyl, nitro, cyano, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, cycloalkylalkenyl, heterocyclyl, heterocyclylalkyl, $-OR^7$, $-C(O)OR^7$, $-C(O)N(R^7)_2$, $-N(R^7)_2$, $-N(R^7)C(O)N(R^7)_2$, $-N(R^7)C(O)OR^8$, $-N(R^7)C(O)R^7$, $-R^9-N=N-O-R^8$, $-S(O)_pR^7$ (where p is 0 to 2), and $-S(O)_pN(R^7)_2$ (where p is 0 to 2);

R^5 and R^6 are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, haloalkyl, haloalkenyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl and heterocyclylalkyl;

each R^7 is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, haloalkyl, haloalkenyl, aryl, aralkyl, aralkenyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl and cycloalkylalkenyl;

each R^8 is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, haloalkyl, haloalkenyl, aralkyl, aralkenyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl and cycloalkylalkenyl; and

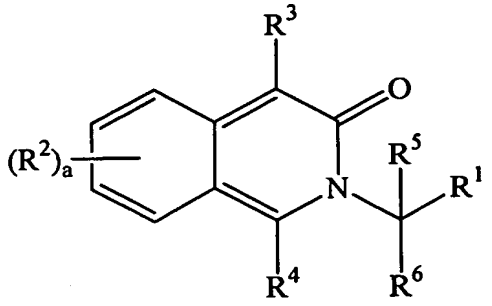
R^9 is a bond or a straight or branched alkylene or alkenylene chain;

as a single stereoisomer, a mixture of stereoisomers, or as a racemic mixture of stereoisomers; or as a solvate or polymorph; or as a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

42. The method according to any one of Claim 40 or 41 wherein the cancer or inflammation is associated with hyperproliferation or cell survival.

43. The method according to any one of Claim 40 or 41 wherein the cancer or inflammation is associated with the activity of SGK.

44. A method of treating hyperproliferative disorders in a mammal, which method comprises administering to the mammal in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula (I)



(I)

wherein:

a is 0 to 4;

R^1 is carbocyclyl or heterocyclyl;

each R^2 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, aryl, aralkyl, aralkenyl, halo, haloalkyl, haloalkenyl, nitro, cyano, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, cycloalkylalkenyl, heterocyclyl, heterocyclylalkyl, $-OR^7$, $-C(O)OR^7$, $-C(O)N(R^7)_2$, $-N(R^7)_2$, $-N(R^7)C(O)N(R^7)_2$, $-N(R^7)C(O)OR^8$, $-N(R^7)C(O)R^7$, $-R^9-N=N-O-R^8$, $-S(O)_pR^7$ (where p is 0 to 2), and $-S(O)_pN(R^7)_2$ (where p is 0 to 2);

R^3 and R^4 are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, aryl, aralkyl, aralkenyl, halo, haloalkyl, haloalkenyl, nitro, cyano, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, cycloalkylalkenyl, heterocyclyl, heterocyclylalkyl, $-OR^7$, $-C(O)OR^7$, $-C(O)N(R^7)_2$, $-N(R^7)_2$, $-N(R^7)C(O)N(R^7)_2$, $-N(R^7)C(O)OR^8$, $-N(R^7)C(O)R^7$, $-R^9-N=N-O-R^8$, $-S(O)_pR^7$ (where p is 0 to 2), and $-S(O)_pN(R^7)_2$ (where p is 0 to 2);

R^5 and R^6 are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, haloalkyl, haloalkenyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl and heterocyclylalkyl;

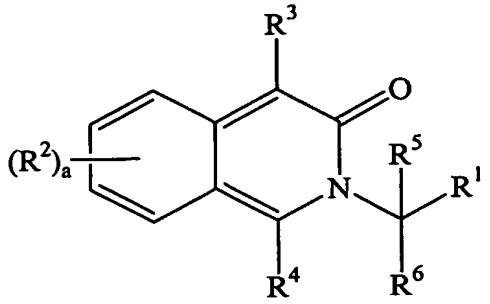
each R^7 is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, haloalkyl, haloalkenyl, aryl, aralkyl, aralkenyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl and cycloalkylalkenyl;

each R^8 is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, haloalkyl, haloalkenyl, aralkyl, aralkenyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl and cycloalkylalkenyl; and

R^9 is a bond or a straight or branched alkylene or alkenylene chain;

as a single stereoisomer, a mixture of stereoisomers, or as a racemic mixture of stereoisomers; or as a solvate or polymorph; or as a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

45. A method of treating a mammal having a disorder or condition associated with hyperproliferation and cell survival, wherein said method comprises administering to the mammal having the disorder or condition a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula (I):



(I)

wherein:

a is 0 to 4;

R^1 is carbocyclyl or heterocyclyl;

each R^2 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, aryl, aralkyl, aralkenyl, halo, haloalkyl, haloalkenyl, nitro, cyano, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, cycloalkylalkenyl, heterocyclyl, heterocyclylalkyl, $-OR^7$, $-C(O)OR^7$, $-C(O)N(R^7)_2$, $-N(R^7)_2$, $-N(R^7)C(O)N(R^7)_2$, $-N(R^7)C(O)OR^8$, $-N(R^7)C(O)R^7$, $-R^9-N=N-O-R^8$, $-S(O)_pR^7$ (where p is 0 to 2), and $-S(O)_pN(R^7)_2$ (where p is 0 to 2);

R^3 and R^4 are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, aryl, aralkyl, aralkenyl, halo, haloalkyl, haloalkenyl, nitro, cyano, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, cycloalkylalkenyl, heterocyclyl, heterocyclylalkyl, $-OR^7$, $-C(O)OR^7$, $-C(O)N(R^7)_2$, $-N(R^7)_2$, $-N(R^7)C(O)N(R^7)_2$, $-N(R^7)C(O)OR^8$, $-N(R^7)C(O)R^7$, $-R^9-N=N-O-R^8$, $-S(O)_pR^7$ (where p is 0 to 2), and $-S(O)_pN(R^7)_2$ (where p is 0 to 2);

R^5 and R^6 are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, haloalkyl, haloalkenyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl and heterocyclylalkyl;

each R^7 is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, haloalkyl, haloalkenyl, aryl, aralkyl, aralkenyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl and cycloalkylalkenyl;

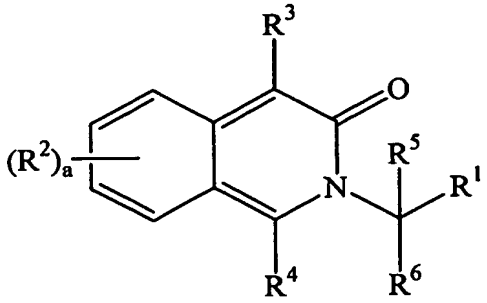
each R^8 is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, haloalkyl, haloalkenyl, aralkyl, aralkenyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl and cycloalkylalkenyl; and

R^9 is a bond or a straight or branched alkylene or alkenylene chain;

as a single stereoisomer, a mixture of stereoisomers, or as a racemic mixture of stereoisomers; or as a solvate or polymorph; or as a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

46. The method according to any one of Claims 40-45 wherein the mammal is a human.

47. A method of treating a mammalian cell with a compound of formula (I):



(I)

wherein:

a is 0 to 4;

R^1 is carbocyclyl or heterocyclyl;

each R^2 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, aryl, aralkyl, aralkenyl, halo, haloalkyl, haloalkenyl, nitro, cyano, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, cycloalkylalkenyl, heterocyclyl, heterocyclylalkyl, $-OR^7$, $-C(O)OR^7$, $-C(O)N(R^7)_2$, $-N(R^7)_2$, $-N(R^7)C(O)N(R^7)_2$, $-N(R^7)C(O)OR^8$, $-N(R^7)C(O)R^7$, $-R^9-N=N-O-R^8$, $-S(O)_pR^7$ (where p is 0 to 2), and $-S(O)_pN(R^7)_2$ (where p is 0 to 2);

R^3 and R^4 are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, aryl, aralkyl, aralkenyl, halo, haloalkyl, haloalkenyl, nitro, cyano, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, cycloalkylalkenyl, heterocyclyl, heterocyclylalkyl, $-OR^7$, $-C(O)OR^7$, $-C(O)N(R^7)_2$, $-N(R^7)_2$, $-N(R^7)C(O)N(R^7)_2$, $-N(R^7)C(O)OR^8$, $-N(R^7)C(O)R^7$, $-R^9-N=N-O-R^8$, $-S(O)_pR^7$ (where p is 0 to 2), and $-S(O)_pN(R^7)_2$ (where p is 0 to 2);

R^5 and R^6 are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, haloalkyl, haloalkenyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl and heterocyclylalkyl;

each R^7 is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, haloalkyl, haloalkenyl, aryl, aralkyl, aralkenyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl and cycloalkylalkenyl;

each R^8 is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, haloalkyl, haloalkenyl, aralkyl, aralkenyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl and cycloalkylalkenyl; and

R^9 is a bond or a straight or branched alkylene or alkenylene chain;

as a single stereoisomer, a mixture of stereoisomers, or as a racemic mixture of stereoisomers; or as a solvate or polymorph; or as a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein the method comprises administering the compound of formula (I) to a mammalian cell and the compound of formula (I) is capable of inhibiting the activity of SGK within the mammalian cell.

48. The method of Claim 47 wherein the mammalian cell is treated in vitro.

49. The method of Claim 47 wherein the mammalian cell is treated in vivo.

50. The method of Claim 47 wherein the inhibition of activity results in a reduction of cell survival.

51. The method of Claim 47 wherein the inhibition of activity results in a reduction of cell division.

52. The method of Claim 47, wherein the inhibition of activity results in apoptosis.

53. The method of Claim 47, wherein the inhibition of activity results in control of tumour growth.

54. The method or pharmaceutical composition of any one of Claims 1, 40-53 wherein R^1 is carbocyclyl.

55. The method or pharmaceutical composition of Claim 54 wherein R^1 is aryl.

56. The method or pharmaceutical composition of Claim 54 wherein R^1 is cycloalkyl.

57. The method or pharmaceutical composition of any one of Claims 1, 40-53 wherein R^1 is heterocyclyl.

58. The method or pharmaceutical composition of any one of Claims 1,40-57 wherein at least one R^2 is hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl or cycloalkylalkenyl.

59. The method or pharmaceutical composition of any one of Claims 1,40-57 wherein at least one R^2 is aryl, aralkyl or aralkenyl.

60. The method or pharmaceutical composition of any one of Claims 1,40-57 wherein at least one R^2 is halo, haloalkyl or haloalkenyl.

61. The method or pharmaceutical composition of any one of Claims 1, 40-57 wherein at least one R^2 is nitro, cyano, $-N(R^7)_2$, $-N(R^7)C(O)OR^8$, $-N(R^7)C(O)R^7$ or $-R^9-N=N-O-R^8$.

62. The method or pharmaceutical composition of any one of Claims 1,40-57 wherein at least one R^2 is heterocyclyl or heterocyclylalkyl.

63. The method or pharmaceutical composition of any one of Claims 1, 40-57 wherein at least one R^2 is $-C(O)OR^7$ or $-C(O)N(R^7)_2$.

64. The method or pharmaceutical composition of any one of Claims 140-57 wherein at least one R^2 is $-OR^7$, $-S(O)_pR^7$ (where p is 0 to 2), or $-S(O)_pN(R^7)_2$ (where p is 0 to 2).

65. The method or pharmaceutical composition of any one of Claims 1,40-64 wherein R^3 is hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, halo, haloalkyl, haloalkenyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl or cycloalkylalkenyl.

66. The method or pharmaceutical composition of any one of Claims 1,40-64 wherein R^3 is aryl, aralkyl or aralkenyl.

67. The method or pharmaceutical composition of any one of Claims 1,40-64 wherein R^3 is nitro, cyano, $-N(R^7)_2$, $-N(R^7)C(O)OR^8$, $-N(R^7)C(O)R^7$ or $-R^9-N=N-O-R^8$.

68. The method or pharmaceutical composition of any one of Claims 1,40-64 wherein R^3 is heterocyclyl or heterocyclylalkyl.

69. The method or pharmaceutical composition of any one of Claims 1,40-64 wherein R^3 is $-C(O)OR^7$ or $-C(O)N(R^7)_2$.

70. The method or pharmaceutical composition of any one of Claims 1,40-64 wherein R^3 is $-OR^7$, $-S(O)_pR^7$ (where p is 0 to 2) or $-S(O)_pN(R^7)_2$ (where p is 0 to 2).

71. The method or pharmaceutical composition of any one of Claims 1,40-70 wherein R^4 is hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, halo, haloalkyl, haloalkenyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl or cycloalkylalkenyl.

72. The method or pharmaceutical composition of any one of Claims 1,40-70 wherein R^4 is aryl, aralkyl or aralkenyl.

73. The method or pharmaceutical composition of any one of Claims 1,40-70 wherein R^4 is nitro, cyano, $-N(R^7)_2$, $-N(R^7)C(O)OR^8$, $-N(R^7)C(O)R^7$ or $-R^9-N=N-O-R^8$.

74. The method or pharmaceutical composition of any one of Claims 1,40-70 wherein R^4 is heterocyclyl or heterocyclylalkyl.

75. The method or pharmaceutical composition of any one of Claims 1,40-70 wherein R^4 is $-C(O)OR^7$ or $-C(O)N(R^7)_2$.

76. The method or pharmaceutical composition of any one of Claims 1,40-70 wherein R^4 is $-OR^7$, $-S(O)_pR^7$ (where p is 0 to 2) or $-S(O)_pN(R^7)_2$ (where p is 0 to 2).

77. The method or pharmaceutical composition of any of one Claims 1,40-76 wherein R^5 and R^6 are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl or haloalkyl.